

DESERET EVENING NEWS

Corner of South Temple and East Temple
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Horace G. Whitney - Business Manager.

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SALT LAKE CITY, - NOV. 5, 1909.

IN MEXICO.

A correspondent of Burley, Idaho, takes exception to an article in the "News" in which President Diaz of Mexico was commended. Our correspondent says Diaz is a tyrant and a dictator, etc.

We are somewhat familiar with this kind of criticism of a man who will ever live in history as the moulder of the Mexican commonwealth, but we see no reason for apologizing for a word of eulogy at the time of the meeting of the two Executives of the neighboring republics. It is probably true that Diaz has many qualities of a dictator and that some of his acts have had the appearance of those of a tyrant, but could Mexico have been brought to its present condition in so short time by a less firm hand? President Diaz has proved himself a great man in his acceptance of religious toleration as one of the fundamental principles of government. No country can advance very rapidly without religious liberty. Witness the status of Russia, and Turkey under the old rule. Any country that loses its religious liberty will gradually drift back into civil slavery as well. President Diaz seems to have grasped this truth, and that alone entitles him to the commendation of all who know the importance of religious liberty to the children of men.

Mexico, under Diaz, has made wonderful strides forward. The American consul at Mazatlan reports that engineers now have prepared plans for the improvement of that harbor, to cost \$15,000,000 in gold. Agriculture has been encouraged. And to further promote the cultivation of the soil there are now being constructed offices, laboratories, museum, observatory, dining halls, and dormitories, as well as residences for the faculty and employees of the Mexican federal agricultural station at Oaxaca. Several hundred acres will be used for agricultural experiments, which will be watched by the students. Attention has been paid to education. Consul Lewis A. Martin of Chihuahua tells about the stress laid by the Mexican people upon the importance of the education of the masses and of the good work being done by the pupils of the public and private schools. The governor of Chihuahua, Hon. Enrique C. Creel, is active in the work for the education of the masses, and his efforts have had abundant success. New schoolhouses are being erected and provided with all modern appliances for educational work. The schools of the state are under the supervision of the governor. The teachers in the public schools are graded and rated according to merit, and the amount of compensation runs all the way from \$15 to \$50 per month. The school year extends over ten months, and they teach five days in each week. Every child five years old or over is obliged under the law to attend school and to take the regular course. There seems to be a purpose on the part of the authorities to insist upon the higher and better education of the masses of the people. Corporal punishment is not permitted in the schools of Mexico.

Mexico has an institution other countries might adopt to advantage. It has railroad schools, in which instructions are given on all matters pertaining to railroading. This is only one means adopted by the management of the National Railways to operate all lines on that system entirely by experts as soon as possible.

A country in which everything is being done for the improvement of harbor, for scientific cultivation of the soil, education, for the expert management of the transportation lines, etc., cannot truthfully be said to have a bad government.

FINANCIAL CONDITIONS.

Mayor Brandford says he is going to insist on a continuation of the improvements under way and add others, "giving, however, every consideration to the financial condition of the City."

Is that a gentle hint that the voters must not expect too much in the way of improvements; that, in fact, they must not look for a too literal fulfillment of the ante-election promises that were made to catch votes?

"The financial condition of the City" is not, as the Mayor knows, satisfactory. Owing to "Liberal" and "American" financing, we are owing over \$5,000,000, which is a considerable sum to pay interest on, for a community of probably less than 100,000 inhabitants. The revenues are mostly needed to pay the expenses of an extravagant administration, and there is, practically, no money for improvements except what can be raised by extra taxes.

In all probability "the financial condition of the City" demand the cessation of public work for some time. We understand that even part of next year's revenue has already been contracted for in advance. So, what can be done? The situation is not encouraging to the new administration.

But do not despair. There is always the possibility of another bond issue. It is true the people are already groaning under special tax-burdens, and the cost of living is higher here than in almost any other city in the country. But trifles need not deter the administration from mortgaging the people's

property to the extent of another half a million dollars, to begin with.

There may be legal obstacles to another loan but the eminent gentlemen who manipulate the City council are not known to be at a loss for a path around the law, and the objections of property owners to an increase of the public debt can always be overcome as long as there is any force in falsehoods about "the hierarchy" and virtue in the vote of gamblers, saloon loafers, and street walkers. Judging from the past, the "financial conditions of the City" need not deter the administration from carrying out the edicts of the bosses, whatever they may be.

ASTRONOMICAL PHENOMENA.

A British astronomical journal announces that great disturbances have taken place lately on the planet Mars. Of what precise nature they are cannot even be surmised. But it is said that the surface markings known as canals have been obliterated and that "a gloomy yellow veil has enshrouded immense tracts." In the scientific world fears are entertained. It seems, that some catastrophe, some cataclysm has visited the planet by which Martian life, if such there be, may have become extinct.

In the opinion of Sir Oliver Lodge, the abnormal electric manifestations on the sun have had a terrible effect on Mars. And this naturally suggests the question whether the earth is safe. If disturbances on the sun cause cataclysms on one planet, why may they not have similar effects on others? Man, confronted by the tremendous forces of nature, can only await developments.

There are at present some extraordinary sun spots. Lately the earth has had some wonderful displays of the aurora borealis. The planet Mars has passed behind the moon. Halley's comet is approaching, and will soon be in view, and Mars has had a terrible cataclysm. These astronomical phenomena cannot fail to hold the attention of the student of the heavens.

A GOOD OLD AGE.

Some notable cases of sprightly old age have been brought to the attention of newspaper readers lately. A sea captain, 80 years of age, has just begun a law course in one of our universities. A Wisconsin grandmother, aged 79, has entered Ohio State university for the regular collegiate course, with special attention to literature and psychology, coupled with the disclosure of a planned course of study that shall occupy her until her ninetieth birthday. This is another remarkable case. Both illustrate the saying that none is too old to learn.

But our age is not exceptional in this respect. Moses Montefiore lived to be a hundred years old. Titian, the painter, died of the plague at the age of 99. Lord Lyndhurst made an excellent political speech at the age of 90. Michael Angelo was 71 when he became architect of St. Peter's. Chevreul, the physicist, wrote a scientific treatise at the age of one hundred years.

IN GREECE.

To those who are watching the events in Greece it looks as if the real purpose of the leaders of the disturbances in that country is to get rid of the present dynasty. Naval officers contend that the country does not need eight royal yachts, while the navy consists only of three small battleships and a few torpedo boats. And this contention seems to be well founded. But behind it all is, in all probability, aversion to a king of foreign extraction. The people were humiliated when the powers forced Crete back under Turkish protection, and they naturally direct their sentiment against the ruler on whom the responsibility is supposed to rest. The foreign powers have repeatedly made demonstrations in favor of King George, but this time they seem to hesitate to appear on the scene. The Balkan question is one that the powers do not willingly arouse from sleep.

Greece is another illustration of the old adage that nothing is settled until it is settled right. When the Greeks after years of battle with oppression, after countless deeds of heroism and self-sacrifice, obtained liberty and autonomy, only part of the object for which the battles were waged, was obtained. The emancipation did not embrace all the race, as it ought to have done. Macedonia was not included in the benefits granted to other parts of the country. Nor was Crete, though a Greek island. The Greek question was only partially settled. It will have to be taken up again some time or another, and so will every other question pertaining to the Balkan countries. The wrongs committed during ages of wars must all be righted and justice done to every race and nation, before that part of the world will cease to be a menace to peace.

Boys should aim to make good men, not "good fellows."

Whether truth is stranger than fiction depends largely upon environment.

"Rebuke the defamers of our city" said Tammany. They did, in New York.

Lieutenant Thaldon cannot hope to be put in the same class as Professor Ferrer.

The skeleton dug up in First South street evidently was not a skeleton in a closet.

Mr. Hearst's consolation prize is a good conscience. It is much, but not what he expected.

It is almost as foolish to burn one's bridges behind him as to burn down a whole town to get a little roast pig.

It would be easier, more expeditious and far less expensive than the present process to use the Alexandrian method in severing the marriage knot.

Woman suffrage got a big endorsement when Mayor McClellan of New York appointed three women members of the board of education. The conces-

sion was not the result of violent suffrage methods but of common sense. Good for Mayor McClellan.

The "News" is under obligation to the "Tribune" for publishing our statement that "the people of this City know that what the 'News' has said of the Tribune and the 'American' party leaders is the truth." Evidently the Tribune knows it, too. If at any time we can reciprocate the compliment, we will be pleased to do so.

Dr. Frederick Cook has begun assembling his data regarding his discovery of the north pole and expects to have it ready for submission to the University of Copenhagen in about a week. It is to be hoped that the pro-Tory papers that have been declaring his course a "national scandal" will not get so mad that they cannot keep their shirts on.

At Macon, Ga., President Taft declared that he did not think discrediting the statutes was the best method of removing limitations that interfere with reforms. That is the right, the sound, the only true doctrine. The President's loyalty to the law is his true greatness. He is setting a fine example, one that cannot be followed too closely by executives, state and national.

A number of complaints have come to this office by young ladies who are annoyed in the streets by mashers and hoodlums who pursue them under the pretense of looking for "Dolly Dimples." We do not see how that outrage can be stopped as long as the hoodlums know that the "American" police are making no efforts whatever to clean the streets and protect the victims of their pursuit.

And now Secretary of Agriculture Wilson comes forward with the startling and terrifying announcement that it will not be so very long before the population of the country will ex-

NEW NEWS OF YESTERDAY

A ROOSEVELT WAR PLAN THAT FAILED.

By E. J. Edwards.

This daily series of anecdotes and incidents that throw new, interesting and frequently dramatic light on famous events and personalities of the past have been collected by Edwards during nearly forty years of reading the latest and most authentic accounts of the country's leaders since the Civil War. Each or in part, it constitutes New News of Yesterday, gathered from the men who made the news—the history—or from equally authoritative sources. As important contributions of the "Human Interest" sort to American history, these articles have a distinctive value all their own.

"When the real inner history of all the events that preceded and led up to the war with Spain is written, I assure you that it will make sensational reading in the best meaning of the word. I know enough of the inner history to justify me in saying this, and I am also justified in adding that it is history—if it is ever written—the name of Theodore Roosevelt will receive no insignificant mention."

The speaker was one who occupied a very important official post at Washington just before and during the war with Spain, and for a year or two after it was terminated. "The name of Theodore Roosevelt will certainly receive more than passing notice; and I have reason for believing that Mr. Roosevelt has kept complete documents, any data, and that he himself may be the man who will sometime give us our real history of the war with Spain. In that event, I daresay, he will tell, among other things, what he, as assistant secretary of the navy, and as doing with the Philippine Islands after we had wrested them from Spain according to the strategy he planned. This bit of inner history came within my personal experience, and so far as I know, has never been put in print."

"One of the most intimate friends whom Col. Roosevelt ever had was the late John R. Proctor, president of the United States civil service commission, and under whom Mr. Roosevelt served as a commissioner. The two men were just enough unlike in temperament to be entirely congenial the one to the other. Each understood the other's purpose to slice off the Philippines from Spain and deliver them into the keeping of Japan. I am positive that, if Roosevelt could have had his way, this would have been done, with what consequences in the far east no man can say. But the momentous diplomacy which made this action impossible is another story, and it, too, will make sensational history when it is told."

"Tomorrow," Mr. Edwards will tell "How the World Lost a Great Novelist,"

haunt the ability of the farmers of the United States to supply the people with sustenance. These worked-over and attenuated Malthusian theories long since ceased to alarm anybody, but the nervous and hysterically inclined. The attempt to revive and make a living thing of Malthusianism is doomed to end in failure.

"The American party is not a party of enmity, but a party of friendliness. It is not a party of hostility, but a party of peace; it is not a party of destruction, but a party of construction; it perpetuates no evils, but always gives benefits; it is not vindictive, but charitable; it is not antagonistic, but wishes the most harmonious relations with all; it does not welcome strife, and engages only in such activity as is necessary to assert, indicate, and maintain the principles of American freedom and equality before the law," says the organ of the Pseudo-American party. To have told such a "chopper" as that would have brought the blush of shame to the cheeks of Jack Falstaff or Baron Munchausen.

No, Salt Lake City will not become "one of the greatest cities in the inter-mountain country" in "the very near future," as long as it is under the control of a gang of strife-breeders. That gang must be deposed, or compelled, by public sentiment, to change its tactics so radically that no one is molested in his, or her, legal rights. American principles must be established here. Then the advancement will be both real and rapid. As long as one part of the community is slandering the other part, there cannot be the progress that is desirable. The anti-"Mormon" agitation must cease. It has cost this part of the country too much already. But for that insane and unnecessary agitation there is no reason why Salt Lake City should not now have as many inhabitants as Denver, if not Los Angeles. The true friend of Salt Lake is he who puts his foot on all anti-church agitation and takes up the labor for harmony.

THE OPTIMIST'S CORNER

THE OPTIMIST'S CORNER

By George F. Butler, A.M., M.D.

Anger, fear, hatred and grief act severely on the physical life. It is a strong man whose health is not impaired by giving way to these passions. He is a man very rich indeed in physical power who can afford to be angry. The richest cannot afford it many times without suffering a severe penalty. What is still worse of anger is, that the very disease it engenders feeds it, so that if the impulse go many times unchecked it becomes the master of the man. Hatred, when it is greatly intensified, acts much like anger in the bad effects it produces. The man with hatred in his heart cannot rest; his appetite and digestion are poor; he neglects the necessities of his own existence; he is rendered feverish and feeble; and at last he either sinks into chronic dependency and irritability, or rushes hastily to the performance of some act which indicates disordered mind. The effects of fear are similar to those of rage, and like rage, grow in force with repetition. Whenever from undue excitement of any kind, the passions are permitted to override the reason, the result is disease; the heart empties itself into the brain; the brain is stricken, the heart is prostrate, and both are lost.

THEN HE COLLAPSED.

TIT-BITS.

The first time a man speaks in public he probably suffers more agony in a shorter space of time than at any other part of his career. Young Frankington felt the truth of this very keenly the other day when he found himself facing an audience of free and independent voters at an election. He had prepared a very fervid oration in support of his father's candidacy, but for the first few moments he could do nothing but gasp. Then, in response to an encouraging cheer, he began to speak.

"Mr.—Mr. Chairman," he stammered, "when I—when I left home this evening only two people on this earth—my father and myself—knew what I was going to say, but now—now—well, now, only father knows."

GRACIOUS ACT OF HOMAGE.

Boston Herald.

The pilgrimage to Commodore Perry's grave in Newport by Japan's envoys.

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